

Workshop 5: Wired for Trouble**Reading 1 Project: Should Schools Ban Cell Phones?**
Editorial: To Ban or Not to Ban?

Where do you stand on one of today's hottest issues?

Project: Your school newspaper has invited you to write a "guest" editorial. Try to persuade others with your words.

Procedure**1. Think about the issue:** *Should cell phones be banned from the classroom?*

An editorial is a short essay in a newspaper or magazine. It expresses the opinion of the editor or publisher. Sometimes other people are invited to write "guest" editorials on a certain topic.

Make a list. Fold a piece of notebook paper down the middle.

- Write "pros" at the top of the first column. These will be the reasons *for* banning cell phones.
- Write "cons" at the top of the second column. These will be the reasons *against* banning cell phones.

Write some arguments for each side of the issue.

2. Gather additional information. Review "Should Schools Ban Cell Phones?" on pages 114–115 of your *rBook Flex*. Are there any ideas here that you did not include? Add them to your lists, using your own words. Decide where you stand on the issue.**3. Write your opinion.** State your position. Give two or three reasons to support it. Include specific facts or persuasive examples. If possible, type your editorial on the computer.**4. Present your editorial.** Print your editorial. Include a title or headline to catch the attention of readers. Post all the editorials in the classroom and compare the different arguments students used.